



BENGALLA MINE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting No. 136

Location: Bengalla Mining Company Boardroom and Via Microsoft Teams

Date: Wednesday 24th November 2021

Present:

Name	Affiliation
Malcolm Ogg	Chairperson
Jonathan Moore	CCC Member
Llewellyn Bates	CCC Member
Cam Halfpenny	Bengalla Mining Company (BMC) (General Manager)
Craig White	Bengalla Mining Company (Environment Superintendent)
Glenn Meyn	Bengalla Mining Company (Mining Manager)
Fiona Hartin	Bengalla Mining Company (Community Relations Specialist)
Sharon Pope	Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC)
Teresa Folpp	Muswellbrook Shire Council (MSC)

Meeting opened: 3.05pm

- 1. APOLOGIES:** Nil
- 2. DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:**
Nil
- 3. SAFETY SHARE**

[CH] Not driving into creeks or water especially with more rain forecast.
- 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

August Minutes Moved by: J Moore Seconded by: L Bates
- 5. OTHER BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/ACTION LIST**

Action 1. Provide a response to the potholes on Bengalla Road that require maintenance. Complete. [CH] Some of the road repairs have been completed but there is further work that we plan on doing. [CW]Resurfacing from keys Bridge back to the Bengalla Road will be completed. Also, in the early stages of planning to upgrade from Keys Bridge to old Bengalla Road. In 2 weeks, the resurfacing will be underway and take 2 days.

Action 2. Connect with RFS to ensure they are aware of fire hydrants available onsite. We did send an email out earlier in the year to the RFS headquarters and a couple of years ago JM did an inspection of all the fire hydrants, but BMC will resend this email. JM Says Wybong is aware of this. Not sure of the other brigades. BMC will reach out to Kayuga, Edinglassie, Mangoola and McCully's Gap. Not complete.

Action 3. Arrange a site visit to observe the Environmental preparation for a blast. Complete.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Pre-meeting Summary Papers, Agenda and draft Newsletter emailed or given to the CCC members.

03.09.2021 Additional Roadworks to Bengalla Road commencing 6 September F Hartin to CCC members.

21.09.2021 Communication regarding site visit to observe blast F Hartin to CCC Members.

28.09.2021 Assistance for Near Neighbour Property owner. M Ogg To F Hartin.

28.09.2021 Draft Bengalla Mine Operations Plan 2017-22 Amendment D Consultation version- CCC. F Hartin to CCC Members.

10.10.2021 Communication regarding site visit to observe blast. F Hartin to CCC Members.

10.11.2021 Bengalla's call operating system. M Ogg to F Hartin.

22.11.2021 Email to Wanaruah LALC regarding representative for the Bengalla CCC.

7. REPORTS FROM CCC COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Report from Malcolm Ogg:

- Malcolm enquired regarding the system that Bengalla uses for our call operating system. [CW] BMC have a complaints procedure. Each mine has an obligation under the development consent to have a complaints line and under the EPL as well. We do have a 24-hour complaints line. If it is in hours the Environment Team will typically respond. If it is after hours the OCE phone sits in the dispatch room and they respond. The complaint is recorded in the complaints book. The message is usually an instruction on 2 things. 1. What was the complaint about? 2. Do they want a call back? My experience is most of the time they want a call back. If it is a complaint that requires data review, then we will often call them back the next day as dispatch personnel are unlikely to data. E.g. Noise monitoring data. The complaint is displayed on the website and our complaints spreadsheet and then we report on complaints in the annual review. [SP] I think I have seen on your website those monthly logs? [CW] Yes, we put on the monthly reports. [CH] The complaint is recorded in monthly reports up through the organisation.
- Near neighbour acquisition/mitigation. BMC are working with the relevant near neighbours as required.

Report from Jonathan Moore:

- Community are pleased and impressed with how quickly BMC organised themselves in relation to COVID procedures. From my experience knowing that it is working, I think it is very good and it is successful. It is good that some of the other mines are doing things as well.
- Potholes - pleased they are being fixed and pleased there will be some resurfacing of the road.
- The Ag Farm continues to be impressive. [GM] We have an internal breeding program. There has been some sowing lately and that has been beautifully timed with the weather. We had a concern a few months ago with the boxthorn. It was appearing around the where the old dairy was. And now you have had people in (to spray the weeds) and that has been a success. JM asked to find out who we use and let him know.
- Price of coal - why does it change so much and what causes the change? [CH] The outlook is positive. Coming through the back end of this year there is a

shortage of coal (in China) and shortages in Europe and India. We are washing more good quality coal. Our outlook is positive. We see long term demand for our product.

- How if any has the protestors affected Bengalla at all? [CH] There has been 5 trains that have been impacted through November. It won't impact our November production, but it will probably impact our December. There were 35 protesters who have been charged with 2 facing potential incarceration. There was a real safety risk - putting themselves at risk and other people.

Report from Llewellyn Bates:

- Thank you very much for all the information that was made available for the blast.
- Weather station- which one is it down on the flats? [CW] There are 2 aspects to it. 1 is the weather station over near Logues lane where Mt Pleasant have built their rail. And then we also have the Inversion tower. There is one tower that has sensors on it. We have sensors on it at different heights up to 90m and it measures wind speed, as well as temperature and direction. We share that data in real time with Mt Arthur and Mt Pleasant.
- Appreciate the continuing roadworks.

8. BENGALLA OPERATION UPDATE

[GM] We are getting closer to the railway. We have a reload facility that will be getting moved this year.

COVID - We took a very serious approach to COVID from day 1. We have had feedback that the RAT testing we are doing is the best in the valley. We are even getting our sewerage tested. We have a large percentage of our workforce vaccinated.

AIFR we are travelling well. Just over 200 days injury free. AIFR down 1.24 to the end of October. For this year (1 August 2021 to now) we have had no recordable injuries. We are working hard to make that the case for the entire year.

Production - The dragline is performing well. We did have some issues with the rollers. The rain helps the dragline from a dust perspective. The truck shovel fleet is about 1-1.5 million cubes behind. We are working hard to make up that shortfall this year. Coal is going well. We are just about on track

Truck 75 - is now under dirt – Truck 75 was buried about 3 weeks ago after obtaining the approval. We will share all of the learnings with industry in a Mine Managers Meeting in early December (on fires).

We have moved our explosive magazine. Our explosive reload facility is also moving. We are starting to build that facility now. The concrete for that explosives reload facility will be completed by March 2022.

[SP] I have noticed on Wybong Road there is a partial road closure again. Is that the slump issue again? [CW] No it is slightly different. Rainfall occurred last weekend. The road has been resurfaced and improved with some new drainage structures. Our sense is that the sheet flow across the road has rolled off the side and started to erode the bank and the gravel that Mt Pleasant has been washed away. There is no safety issue there, it is a precaution. The engineers are now working through how to fix it.

[JM] Did the big dam catch an amount of water from this rainfall that we have had? The State Government required the dam to contain a 1 in 200-year event. That is why the dam is so large. The current percentage in the dam is 8%. We have an obligation to pump this down to 4% around the toe of the dam.

9. APPLICATIONS AND APPROVALS

[TF] Are you tracking the things that you bury like the truck and even the tyres. Are you tracking where they are going? [CW] We know where the truck is because we moved it to the location which was only 50m from where it caught fire. And we have aerial photography and drone shots of that. When we did the submission to planning the way that was dealt with, at Planning suggestion, we should seek a direction from them on how to dispose of the truck. We had a remediation expert look at the truck to determine what we needed to do with the hydrocarbons- remove some compartments, drain the tanks etc and this was done. We also had an asset management specialist review the truck to see whether it was possible to dispose of it off site and his view was the truck was structurally compromised so we couldn't really do that and we would have to put people under suspended loads and we weren't prepared to take that risk. When we moved the truck, we collected the material under the truck and took it to our bioremediation farm. So that has been remediated. With the tyres BMC and industry historically dispose of those in pit. We have a Tyre disposal procedure and we use this procedure to identify the locations the tyres are going to be put, the configuration they have been put in, and they get covered over. In the case law space, there has been some recent developments where there were some issues around tyre disposal. EPA has stated they would like to see (mines) seek formal approval to dispose of the tyres because that is a trigger for them to start conditioning it through the EPL. So that is in our MOD 5 presentation that we did back in July. We have put that description in our MOD 5, and I am anticipating lodging that on Friday. [TF] Down the track knowing where everything is buried. [CW] We can review and present at the next meeting.

10. LAND MANAGEMENT

[CW] We have just come through a dam safety audit. This is through Dam Safety NSW and they have strong regulatory powers and these regulatory powers commenced 1 November 2021. Bengalla has 2 prescribed dams the CW1 and Dirty Water dam near Bengalla link Road. We have operations and maintenance manuals, emergency plans which have been sent to the SES and there are procedures in those around what we need to do. We report monthly and yearly to the dam safety and one of the good things that came out of the audit as it was very detailed. What came out is that our reporting is the best that they have seen.

CW gave a presentation on the areas for rehabilitation. All the zones from the northeast corner (5, 4, 3 2, 6) they are areas we have to install HDWV. There is a 5-year program and we are in year 2 of that program. This was a requirement of our MOD 2. As we move west, we are going to have more and more pasture.

We undertake land management at our offset properties. Fire trails are mapped and maintained. RFS have GIS files of those, they are signposted, and when we first installed the tracks RFS inspected them as well. We have a requirement to do ecological surveys in

the winter period and the summer period. The summer one will be happening in December (subject to the wet weather).

We do wild dog and pig control. We have our own baiting program, but we also have baiting programs through the wild dog associations. An aerial baiting program for local land service and BMC are contributing \$80,000 over 4 years (currently in year 3). Similar things happen at the mine itself. Year to date we have trapped 125 pigs.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING RESULTS

Environmental monitoring review for August 2021, September 2021, and October 2021 (the Reporting Period).

- Air Quality:
 - Pursuant to Bengalla's short term (24-hour) PM₁₀ criteria (50 µg/m³), 2 elevated results were recorded during the Reporting Period being:
 - 67.4 µg/m³ at PM10-4 on 13 August 2021. Bengalla increment estimated to be 2.5 µg/m³.
 - 52.7 µg/m³ at PM10-4 on 12 September 2021. Bengalla increment estimated to be 10.1 µg/m³.
 - 50.8 µg/m³ at PM10-4 on 30 October 2021. Bengalla increment estimated to be 16.9 µg/m³.
 - Pursuant to Bengalla's annual PM₁₀ criteria (25 µg/m³), at the end of the averaging period (2021 calendar year):
 - PM10-1 read 21.8 µg/m³.
 - PM10-2 annual average excluding extraordinary events 18.3 µg/m³.
 - PM10-3 read 17.6 µg/m³.
 - PM10-4 read 25.1 µg/m³.
 - Pursuant to Bengalla's annual Total Suspended Particulates criteria (90 µg/m³) at the end of the averaging period:
 - HV1 read 71 µg/m³.
 - HV2 read 61.6 µg/m³.
 - HV3 read 45.2 µg/m³.
 - HV 4 read 50.3 µg/m³.
 - HV6 read 83 µg/m³.
 - Historically BMC has been managed on wind speed. My sense is that in 1998 concern was likely about wind erosion of dust over the neighbouring properties. There has been work done with air quality experts about what wind speed generates particle emissions from sites from wind exposed areas. It is roughly about 8m/s where the air quality experts suggest in that first

hour windblown erosion can occur. So Bengalla's original Air Quality Management Plan was established with a windspeed of 5.6m/s for an hour as a trigger. So if we read 5.6m/s at the weather station for an hour alarms go to a range of people (text, email etc) and there is an alarm that appears in dispatch and despatch have to take a positive step to deal with that alarm. The AQMP requirement is Bengalla don't operate on the pre-strip on the high wall side and we don't operate generally above 240RL-250RL. How do we control that? We do a 22-week plan (Mining Engineers) and a weekly plan. In the weekly plan we have a weather restricted dumping site. In that slide it identifies the areas that you cannot go to in a medium wind speed environment and further the weekly plan identifies the areas that you can go to. There are daily pre-production meetings where various issues including risks etc are discussed. There is a second wind speed alarm which occurs at 10m/s for an hour. If this alarm occurs, we stop dust producing activities. There are some exceptions to that. We will continue to run ROM coal trucks to the plant to keep the plant operating and at the other end of the plant we will run reject trucks which has got wet material in it to the reject cells. Watercarts will continue to operate. So, wind speed is the primary driver of how we respond to air quality alarms regarding dust emissions from the site. Bengalla has not had an exceedance at a private receiver under the current development consent.

We will be purchasing 7 TEOMS, and 2 of those will measure the 2.5 µg particle size and they will operate in real time every day. So, the 6-day run will cease and each day the TEOMS will operate. [TF] So the new management plan, the PM 10s will give you data the next day? [CW] No it will be in real time. [TF] Will they be compliance monitors? [CW] Some of them will be.

- Pursuant to Bengalla's annual Total Deposited Dust criteria (4 g/m²/m) at the end of the averaging period Bengalla was below the criterion.
- Noise Management:
 - For the Reporting Period Bengalla complied with all noise criteria at compliance monitoring locations.
- Blast Monitoring:
 - For the Reporting Period Bengalla was compliant with the blast criteria.
- Water Usage:
 - Rainfall was above the long-term average for September and below average for August and October.
 - Rainfall for August 29.5mm, September 35.5mm and October 62.5mm
 - During the reporting period BMC did not discharge to the Hunter River
 - BMC has extracted 303 megalitres of water in the 2021/2022 water year (1 July 2021 to 31 October 2021).
- Complaints:
 - During the reporting period 18 complaints were received

- Environmental incidents: 0

12. COMMUNITY REPORT

Community slides presented including a summary of the community partnerships and community events.

Unfortunately, COVID has again impacted on community events with many events being rescheduled now on multiple occasions - Blue Cattle Dog Festival, Hunter Coal Festival, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Charity Rugby League Event, plus also school camps.

There are now 5 Apprentices and 1 trainee on board. For the first time a farm trainee has commenced work and 3 electrical and 2 plant mechanic apprentices have started at Bengalla. Our scholarship recipients are onsite for their vacation work over the summer period. Events and sponsorships over the last quarter include our electrical and mechanical scholarship recipients who are currently onsite completing their vacation work. We support these students for 4 years and they spend approximately 10 weeks onsite each year. We are preparing for work experience and work placement in 2022. There will be a several sponsorships through schools and sporting clubs. Applications for our Engineering Scholarship are currently open. Our 8 Undergraduate Scholarships have been awarded through 4 local schools.

Upcoming in 2022 is the Careers in Mining Evening and this will be held in Singleton. We will continue to support the Polly Farmer Foundation as well as Where There's a Will. The apprentice project this year was also completed. Unfortunately, this was an internal project due to COVID and was a dragline bucket.

13. CCC NEWSLETTER IDEAS

Continue with articles on Bengalla including, MOD 5, bushfire season preparation, reject cells and how they are managed, Hitachi big data and Opguard/ Safemine. Identify how the mine will be managed under the new Air Quality Management Plan.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 3.00pm

Meeting closed at 5:15pm

Attachments:

- Meeting Presentation slides

ACTION LIST

Meeting No. 136 – Wednesday 24th November 2021

ITEM NO.	ITEM	ACTION BY
1	Find name of company who did the Boxthorn spraying on the agricultural land.	CW
2	Connect with RFS to ensure they are aware of the fire hydrants onsite (McCully's Gap, Kayuga, Mangoola)	CW
3	Do we have a way to track where the tyres are buried? CW will	CW

	present at the February Meeting.	
4	Presentation on where the new Bengalla Air Quality Management Plan including monitor locations.	CW